Demand to Seal Unsafe High Rise Buildings

3912. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HONSPAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a demand to seal all the unsafe high rise buildings in the Capital ;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to seal and to take strict action against owners and builders of sky scrapers who did not provide adequate safety measures and thereby endanger the lives of occupants; and

(c) if so, by when the said buildings will be sealed and what action Government propose to take against the building-owners ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTERY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) There is no proposal to seal all the unsafe high-rise buildings in the Capital. However, owners/occupiers of the high-rise buildings were directed to provide necessary fire safety requirements. After expiry of the notice period a fresh survey was conducted with a view to ascertain the compliance with the notices. Fresh notices have been issued by the Chief Fire Officer to the builders/owners to submit their action plans within a stipulated period.

Inclusion of CCA in Taxable Income

3913. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Calcutta High Court has struck down inclusion of City Compensatory Allowance in the Taxable income and the Madras Bench of the Income Tax Tribunal has exempted Dearness allowance/relief from the purview of the income tax which decision was upheld by the Madras High Court later on, leading to an anamolous situation which is discriminatory in nature ; and

(b) if so, what steps have since been taken by the Government to extend the benefit of these judicial decisions to the entire country by suitably amending to relevant Act and the rules, and the corrective measures to remove the anamolous and discriminatory situation mentioned in part (a) above ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) It is a fact that the Calcutta High Court has held that City Compensatory Allowance is not taxable. The Government has not accepted this judgment and a special leave petition has been filed before the Supreme Court. As regards the judgment of Madras Bench of Appellate Tribunal and Madras High Court regarding exemption of dearness allowance/relief from the purview of income tax, no such judgment has come to notice of the Government.

(b) Since the Government has not accepted the judgment of Calcutta High Court, there is no proposal to carry out any legislative amendment to extend the benefit of the judgment to all assesses in the country.

Job Racket Unearthed in Delhi

3914. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY :

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' of the 16th July, 1988 to the effect that a job racket has been unearthed in the capital ;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ;

(c) what is the number of persons found involved in this racket who have been arrested ; and

(d) what further action has been taken against the culprits ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) :

(a) The news item does not pertain to Delhi.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Delhi Police Involved in Patronising Drug Trafficking

3915. SHRI BHASKAR ANNAJI MASODKAR :

SHRI KAPIL VERMA :

SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some Delhi Police personnel have been found to be involved in patronising drug trafficking in the Capital ;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard ; and

(c) in what manner Government propose to put a check on such activities of harbouring drug traffickers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) In two cases drugs were recovered from the possession of two police Constables by the Vigilance Branch of Delhi Police. In another case, a woman Sub-Inspector has been arrested for harbouring a drug trafficker. 3 cases u/s. 21/61/85 NDPS Act, 1985 have been registered.

(c) Strict watch is being maintained in this regard and stern action is taken against such policemen according to law.

Attack on Minister of State for Home Affairs in Calcutta

3916. SHRI DEBA PRASAD RAY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government have received the reply to the Home Minister's recent letter to the Chief Minister, West Bengal, clarifying the whole episode concerning the recent attack on the Minister of State for Home Affairs in Calcutta ;

(b) if so, to what effect ; and

(c) whether any similar incidents took place in West Bengal in the recent past endangering the life of Central Ministers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THIS MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Chief Minister, West Bengal has regretted the incident and acknowledged the responsibility of the State Government for making adequate security arrangements during visit of Central Ministers to the States.

(c) Yes Sir : One such incident took place in March, 1988 also.